

1 John 2v17 – We Aim To Live – 09-08-1968 & 01-25-1970 & 09-12-1971

St. John's, Emlenton ~~11:00~~ 9/8/68

\*Processional Hymn 7  
\*Call to Worship  
\*Confession of Sin  
\*Assurance of Pardon  
Responsive Reading Sel. 54 Pg 601  
Hymn 86  
Scripture I John 2: 7 to 17  
\*Gloria Patri  
\*Apostles Creed  
\*Pastoral Prayer  
Anthem  
Announcements

Offering, Prayer  
\*Hymn 341  
Sermon  
Prayer & Lord's Prayer  
\*Hymn 315  
\*Benediction  
\*Threefold Amen

Salem Lamartine ~~9:50~~ 9/8/68

Processional Hymn 21  
Call to Worship Pg. 210  
\*Confession of Sin  
\*Assurance of Pardon  
Scripture I John 2:  
\*Gloria Patri  
\*Apostles Creed  
\*Pastoral Prayer  
Anthem 192  
Announcements

Offering, Response, Prayer  
Hymn 209  
Sermon  
Prayer & Lord's Prayer  
\*Hymn 467  
\*Benediction  
\*Threefold Amen

Call to Worship: O come let us sing to the Lord;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-  
vation.

Call to Confession: O taste and see that the Lord  
is good. Happy is the man who takes refuge in him.  
Let us come now before him and confess our sins.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon: The Lord redeems the life of his  
servants; none of those who take refuge in him will  
be condemned. Amen.

JEFF SMITH MOTHER DIED

---

ORGAN IN HARRISBURG.

BROTHER HOWE TUES 7:30

VISITORS?

DENMARK MANOR  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ralph Link                      Guest Speaker  
Mary Esler                      Organist  
Paul Brinker                    Choir Director

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
January 25, 1970 11:00 A.M.

WE GATHER IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL

PRELUDE  
\*HYMN OF PRAISE                      No. 18  
\*CALL TO WORSHIP                      No. 482  
\*CONFESSION OF SINS

Our Father God, we acknowledge and confess our many sins which we have committed by thought, word, and deed, against you and our neighbors. Have mercy on us for the sake of your Son our Savior. Forgive us all our sins and offenses, and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit; that we may hereafter love and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*KYRIE ELEISON  
\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON  
\*THE PRAISE

Pastor: Praise you the Lord.  
People: The Lord's Name be praised.

\*GLORIA PATRI  
ANTHEM "Sweet Hour of Prayer" Roger Wilson

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

COLLECT  
SCRIPTURE I John 2: 7 - 17  
SCRIPTURE RESPONSE                      No. 202  
1st & 4th Verse with Amen

SERMON "We Aim To Live"  
\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH                      Statement of Faith  
\*HYMN                      No. 286

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: And with your spirit.  
Pastor: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM                      Page 12

PRAYER RESPONSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

\*The Presentation - The Doxology  
\*The Lord's Prayer

\*HYMN                      No. 292

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED - OUR SERVICE BEGINS

\*denotes standing

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by the Grace Hague Church School Class.

Rev. Earle R. Potts will begin his pastorate at Denmark Manor next Sunday morning.

Greeters	Clara Hostetler
	Florence Good
Acolyte	Anita Galko
Nursery	Dolores Brinker
	Brenda Hague

SUNDAY, January 18, 1970

Regular Offering	\$305.10
Attendance	138
Building Fund	\$105.65

TODAY, 2:30 P.M. A discussion on Adult Education will be held in the Delmont Church. Any interested persons are welcome to attend.

MONDAY, Jan. 26, 6:30 Women's Slimnastics

TUESDAY, Jan. 27, 6:30 Boy's Recreation.  
7:30 Senior Citizens at Zion Lutheran Church, Harrison City. George Kistler will present a travelog on Western Europe.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 28, 6:30 Girl's Recreation

THURSDAY, Jan. 29, 6:30 Young Men's Rec.

NEXT SUNDAY, Feb. 1, Short Congregational Meeting to vote on Constitution Revisions. 2:30 - 4:30 P.M., A workshop for Church School teachers from Kindergarten through Senior Hi will be held at First Church, Greensburg. Teachers are urged to attend.

FEBRUARY 2, 7:30 P.M. Stanley Party in Fellowship Hall. Come and bring a friend.

Items for Newsletter due next Sunday.

1969 Yearbooks can be found on the table in the Narthex for anyone not receiving theirs. Please check off your name on the sheet provided.

## Denmark Manor United Church of Christ



65 MANOR VALLEY ROAD  
EXPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE 327-1814

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 Ralph C. Link, Pastor  
 Christ Church, Duncannon 9:00 A.M.  
 Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP September 12, 1971

The Organ Prelude  
 \*The Hymn of Praise 18  
 \*The Call to Worship  
 \*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)  
 Almighty God, thou knowest that we have  
 not lived the life of which we are capable.  
 Thou knowest that we have gifts which we have  
 not used or that we have misused. Thou  
 knowest that we have not loved thee above  
 all lesser concerns, and that we have utterly  
 failed to love our neighbor as ourselves.  
 Thou knowest, O Lord, that we are not even  
 able to love ourselves. Have mercy and for-  
 give us, Lord, for Christ's sake. Amen.  
 \*The Kyrie  
 \*The Assurance of Pardon  
 The Scripture--I John 2:7-17  
 \*The Gloria Patri  
 Pastoral Prayer  
 Announcements  
 The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings  
 \*The Doxology  
 \*The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer  
 The Hymn of Meditation 286  
 The Sermon---"We Aim To Live"  
 The Sermon Prayer  
 \*The Hymn of Response 292  
 \*The Benediction  
 \*The Threefold Amen  
 \*The Postlude

\*Congregation Stands

#### CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

A city-wide drive for the Church World Service clothing appeal is currently in progress in Duncannon. The clothing drive will end on Sept. 14, 1971. Clothing should be delivered to your church. Good, clean used blankets and clothing which can be worn for at least six months more is requested. Light summer clothing is especially needed. Church World Service--the cooperative relief agency of 28 denominations--processes and ships the clothing and blankets for distribution in some thirty overseas areas of acute need. Last year, more than five million pounds was exported. Donations of cash are also needed. It costs ten cents to process the clothing, prepare it for shipping, and to pay for insurance and port charges. For information, telephone Betty Smith 834-3432 or Mabel Golbach 834-3317.

The Missionary Circle will meet Tues. Sept. 14th in the home of Florence Haas at 7:30 P.M.

## We Aim to Live

Text: I John 2:17

I JOHN

Anyone who does the will of God remains forever.

~~For lack of a better title I have entitled this sermon, "We aim to live. Most of us have heard the phrase, "Living the good life," at one time or another. It has been said of many things. Our advertizing industry has gotten some pretty good mileage out of this phrase in the last few years. We have heard that if we drink a certain beer then we are living the good life. The good life has been connected with certain brands of cigarettes. And this phrase has been used with many other things as well. But just what is the good life? To some people it may very well be a certain brand of cigarette or a certain brand of beer. But to the person who is a Christian, it is naturally the Christian life. But there is a world of difference between being a Christian and living the Christian life. And this is what we will be concerned with this morning.~~

PEOPLE EVERYWHERE ARE SEARCHING FOR THE WAY TO LIVE  
IT HAS BEEN EQUATED WITH EVERYTHING FROM TO A

John tells us ~~that~~, "Anyone who does the will of God remains forever."

Looking up the background on John, I found that it is thought by most Biblical scholars that the letters bearing his name are so like the Gospel of John that he did indeed write them also. There has been much discussion over this and for a long time it was doubted that the Gospel of John and the letters of John were not written by the same man. In the Jerusalem Bible there is a brief synopsis to the Gospel and the letters and it states, "In this letter, (the first), John summarizes the entire content of his religious experience. He goes on to show how we as children of God must necessarily live the life of integrity which, for John is the only thing which fulfils the twin commandments: faith in Jesus Christ, the son of God, and love of the brethren." So you see this is the explanation of John's purpose for writing. But what of our purpose for living? To aim to live the Christian life requires that we know how to live, it asks the question where are we going, and it requires that we must live.

Knowing how to live is the most difficult part of life. It is like almost anything else, in the respect that once we have mastered the fundamentals of it, it is rather simple to do. But here many people may question the fact that

MOSTLY

perhaps this does not concern us. After all we are all ~~almost~~ adults here today and we have lived a few years, and besides we are professing Christians or we couldn't be here. This is all true. But let me ask a question. Are our lives completely happy? Do we feel that we honestly know how to live? Many of <sup>US</sup> ~~can~~ probably answer yes. And yet I think perhaps many of us are filled with doubts. I know that from time to time I am. There are many people who go through their entire life and never find the answers they are seeking, simply because they do not know how to go about it. And again the question may arise well just how do we go about it. There is no hard and fast rule. There is no pat answer or phrase that we can go by. We must first realize that we come from God and someday we will return to Him. But what we do in the interim is very important.

To know how to live, we must first come to God. <sup>THRU CHRIST</sup> Again we are talking about faith. We must give our lives into His care and keeping. To do so requires that we completely surrender ourselves to Him. In humility and complete trust we must cast ourselves upon Him. To do this requires only a simple prayer, such as, "Here I am God, take me and use me as you want. I am yours and I cannot live this life without your help and guidance." If we can cast ourselves upon Him in this way then we have attained the first important step. After this we must leave our lives in His keeping. We must continue to put all our faith and trust in Him. In the words of the Psalmist we must, "Wait on the Lord." By the use of daily prayer and devotions we can come to the point where we will find that God does indeed speak to us in our lives. But there is a caution here just as we have <sup>CAUTIONS IN EVERYDAY LIFE</sup> ~~a caution when we are taking~~ <sup>MEDICINE</sup> ~~medicine~~. On the bottle it usually says, "Caution use only as directed." Well, in the living of the good life the caution is that we do not take matters into our own hands. We must wait upon the Lord. He will show us and lead us if we let Him. At this point we have stepped across the threshold and we are looking at life as though a whole new vista has opened before us. We are aiming to live, and living the good life is just ahead. God is ready to lead us, and we have placed our lives in His hands.

But where are we going? If I were to ask each one of you individually, I would probably get varied answers. For the most part the answer would

that we are trying to go to heaven. Maybe some of you have heard this before. It concerns a man who slept in Church Sunday after Sunday. This provoked the minister until finally he decided to put a stop to it. So the next Sunday he waited until the man had dropped off into a deep sleep and then he asked, "All those who would like to go to heaven stand up." Naturally everyone stood except the sleeping man. After they were seated he asked, "All those who would like to go to hell, stand up." At the words stand up he raised his voice to a shout and it woke the man up. All he heard was stand up and so he stood. He looked around rather embarrassedly and felt he had to say something so he said, "I don't know what it is we are voting on Rev. but it looks like you and I are the only ones in favor of it." Well, we are all aiming to go to heaven. At least that is where we all want to go. But to find out more about this we must search the Scriptures to see what is said there. In John we read, "Father the hour is come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given Him, let Him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to Him. And eternal life is this: to know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." And again in John Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life, if anyone believes in Me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." And in Matthew Jesus says, "Everyone who has left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children, or land for the sake of my name will be repaid a hundred times over, and also inherit eternal life." Now these words are proof of the ministry of Jesus. But they also tell us the end result of living the good life. The main point of the Christian religion is the fact that Jesus arose from the dead. By this He proved that there is life after death and His words were true. So if we accept Christianity, and we must, And if we believe that Jesus arose from the dead, and we must, And if we believe that we too can inherit eternal life, and we must, Then we should be living this life to the very best that we can, so that the promise of Jesus can be ours. By this I mean that Jesus also promised a different reward to those who do not live the good life. So to be on the side of the Lord, we must try to live as good a life as we can.

Then we must live. This may sound ridiculous to some because we are living aren't we? But there is <sup>A DISTINCT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIVING AS A XIAN</sup> living and <sup>JUST</sup> there is living. To the scoffer, the athiest, the agnostic and the cynical unbeliever, they would all say that there is nothing to living. We arise in the morning, eat our breakfast, go to work or school, eat lunch, work until quitting time, come home, eat supper, relax and go to bed. The next day is the same and so on. But is this all there is to life? <sup>LIKE THE POPULAR SONG ASKS: "IS THAT ALL THERE IS?"</sup> If it is it sounds pretty dull and boring to me. Living in this sense does not require much. The actual mechanics of living are almost automatic... We get hungry we eat.. We get tired we sleep. Our body for the most part functions on its own with no help from us. So you see we can live very easily and on this point we must agree with the scoffers, the athiests, the sneerers and the cynics. But This is not living, it is only an existence and a very poor one at that. I believe that if God meant for us to only exist and do nothing more, then he would have made us animals instead of humans. But God has other plans for us and this is where doing His will comes in. How do we know what the will of God is? We don't. But if we are in close communion with God we are wanting to do His will, ~~and~~ He will speak to us as we go through life. To many people the living of the good life is a boring and rather dull thing. This impression has been created by some of the generations gone by. Thank goodness those generations are past. Christianity is ~~at~~ing to smile about. It should be a joy to be about this life. It doesn't help make us any more pious to wear long faces and act religious. In fact I feel it deters the cause of Christianity. Who wants to belong to something, where your face has to be screwed up like a prune? It isn't very inviting is it? One of the most sincere compliments I ever received was given to me ~~a week or~~ <sup>BY</sup> ~~se~~ ago. <sup>WHEN SHE</sup> A woman who <sup>A</sup> was introduced to me remarked, "He don't look like a preacher!" Too long we have had the old stereotyped mental picture of a very serious looking man with a very stern countenance spouting Scripture as though he wrote it. The day is here where we can accept a minister or preacher as being a human being, As being no different than any other person. This is true Christianity. To make it attractive, to make it enjoyable, to make it livable. <sup>AND THIS IS WHAT JESUS DID.</sup> ~~BUT~~ Christianity is not, nor will it ever be, or mean a trouble free life.

We shall still have problems, and we <sup>SHALL</sup> still have the cares of life that befall all of us. But if we have God leading us we can overcome all of the problems that come our way.

I have always thought that many times God speaks to us when we least expect it. I am more convinced of this than ever right now. This past week on Monday I believe it was, I picked out the hymns for today, and reached in the old sermon box and came up with the sermon we have used this morning. Then I left for Lancaster on Tuesday and was there until Friday afternoon. But while I was there I met an old friend. Not a man I have met personally, but a man I have seen many times on Television and a man I saw in person in Pittsburgh. The man was Billy Graham. The ironic thing is that this old sermon was concluded several years ago with a reference to his crusade in Pittsburgh. The voice of God? I think so, because while I watched Billy Graham on television, it made the Pittsburgh experience come alive again. I thrilled to the testimony of ~~Billy Graham~~ Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, as they told how they had become Christians. Especially as it thrilling to see <sup>Dales</sup> ~~their~~ oldest son Tom be presented as the man who had brought her to the Lord. Then to hear the thrilling sermon by Mr. Graham as he spoke of loneliness and how he also told that life will not be without problems and sorrows and cares just because Christ has been accepted.

But to see the people streaming out of the stands, made me recall how we had seen this same scene in Pittsburgh in the fall of 1969. I got goose bumps as I watched all of these people come forward, young men and women, young boys and girls, men and women from all walks of life and all ages. What a wonderful thing to behold, this individual acceptance of Jesus by a thousand or more people. We must each come to God and place ourselves at his disposal. Only then can we have peace and joy in our lives. Only when we have really accepted Jesus Christ in our hearts and lives can we be free and live the good life. It doesn't come out of a tube, or a bottle, or a package or a drug store, it comes to us through the mercy and love of God. If we have never come to Christ before, then today is the day and now is the hour. Anyone who does the will of God remains forever." This is just as true today as it was way back when. Let us accept Christ and live forever, the good life.